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28 January 1952

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR: [ ]

SUBJECT: Current Status of BGFIEND Operations

1. Introduction

OPC project BGFIEND was approved in June 1949. The project was originally destined to perpetrate the overthrow of the Albanian government and to assist in the eventual establishment of a new pro-West government. However, a shift in the status of the Balkan situation in late 1949 necessitated the reevaluation of the project with a view to limiting the major objective.

As presently envisioned the project is directed toward three goals:

- a. Reduction of the value of Albania to the Soviets through harassment of the Hoxha government and undermining Communist authority.
- b. Encouragement and assistance to the Albanian people in resisting Communist authority.
- c. Creation and support of a resistance organization to be used as the hub of a liberation movement when operations progress to that point.

As of 25 January 1952, the status of the operations pursuing these aims, is as follows:

2. Agent Operations

- a. The following are statistics on BGFIEND agent operations into Albania since their inception on 10/11 November 1950:

Total number of agents infiltrated	39
1. Infiltrated by air drop	33
2. Infiltrated by overland	6
3. Casualties	12
4. Agents unaccounted for, but believed to be in Yugoslavia	7
5. Agents exfiltrated	20

- b. A four man team which had been operating in the KUKES area since May 1951 buried their radio set in the mountains in November and moved to Yugoslavia, where they are wintering

SECRET

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**SECRET**

**SECURITY INFORMATION**

with friends. They have indicated via S.I. letters that they expect to return to Albania in the early spring.

- e. Lacking contact with the team dropped into the SHKUMBI Estuary area, and knowing that the KUKES team is no longer in the country, we must assume that there is, for the time being, no OPC activity in Albania.

**3. Psychological Warfare Operations**

The following is the status of BGFIEND psychological warfare operations. The National Committee for a Free Albania is used as a vehicle for the P/W campaign:

**a. Radio**

The BGFIEND clandestine transmitter, The Voice of Free Albania, has been operating on a regular daily basis since it began broadcasts on 18 September 1951.

**b. Printed Material**

The Committee's semi-monthly newspaper Shqiperia is printed in Rome and has a circulation list of five thousand names. Miniature editions of the paper are also printed and used together with leaflets and cartoons for the leaflet dropping program which currently consists of leaflet raids over Albania by the covert aircraft at six to eight week intervals. In addition to its newspaper and leaflets, the NCFA prints a news bulletin at irregular intervals in English, French and Italian which is aimed at increasing the stature of the Committee by providing the journalistic world with material on Albanian affairs that is suitable for use by the various press services.

**c. Propaganda Supply Program**

An air drop program of certain scarce but inexpensive consumer goods items such as flour, raisins and macaroni constitutes another part of the BGFIEND psychological warfare operation. These drops represent a logical follow-up to Hoxha's refusal to answer an offer from the NCFA to provide foodstuffs for the Albanian people.

**4. Economic Warfare**

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

**SECURITY INFORMATION**

**4. Economic Warfare**

With the establishment of the JSEDICT station in Trieste in the immediate future, BOFIEND capabilities for Economic Warfare against Albania can be developed. To date, only preliminary actions have been taken in the development of the Economic Warfare phase of BOFIEND.

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